



ARIZONA REGISTRAR of CONTRACTORS

Janice K. Brewer, Governor

William A. Mundell, Director

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Media Advisory

Donald McGettrick sentenced for unlicensed contracting & Joe Longo sentenced for aiding and abetting an unlicensed contractor after investigation by the Arizona Registrar of Contractors

The Prescott Justice Court sentenced Mr. McGettrick for contracting without a license. The sentence included:

- \$1,860 in fines, and
- \$42,000 in restitution.

In a joined matter, the Prescott Justice Court sentenced Mr. Longo, dba Longo Builders, Inc. for aiding and abetting an unlicensed contractor. The sentence included:

- \$1,860 in fines, and
- \$24,249 in restitution.

The Prescott Justice Court prosecuted McGettrick after an investigation and referral from the Arizona Registrar of Contractors for contracting without a license, a Class 1 Misdemeanor. McGettrick had persuaded the homeowners he didn't need a license to enter into contracts of \$41,400 and \$10,000. After the homeowners learned an ROC license was required they approached McGettrick and told him they were going to have to fire him because he wasn't licensed. McGettrick responded that his friend, Longo could take over the job and he (McGettrick) would work under Longo's license. By allowing his license to be used by an unlicensed contractor, Longo aided and abetted an unlicensed contractor. Despite \$43,000 being paid to McGettrick and Longo, the house failed the framing, plumbing, and electrical code inspections.

"Protecting the people of Arizona from illegal contracting is our highest priority", said William Mundell, Director of the Arizona Registrar of Contractors.

The Registrar of Contractors advises homeowners to protect themselves against fraudulent contractors by

- Consulting the Arizona Registrar of Contractors, www.azroc.gov, to ensure the contractor is licensed.
- Asking for written estimates from at least three contractors.
- Requesting a list of references, and checking them before agreeing to hire anyone.
- Making sure the scope of the project, the price, the responsibility to obtain building permits, and any other relevant terms are spelled out in a written contract.
- Avoiding contractors who require large upfront payments.
- Never allowing yourself to be hurried into making a decision. No reputable contractor will pressure you into a quick hiring decision.

Other tips about hiring qualified contractors can be found at www.azroc.gov.

For more information or to request an interview with Director Mundell, contact Tyler Palmer, Public Information Officer of the Arizona Registrar of Contractors at (602) 771-6710.

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